

GEORGE MAKES PROMISE TO PEOPLE

First Official Statement of the
New King Makes Good
Impression.

GRIEF OF QUEEN MOTHER

King's Oath May Be Changed
to Avoid Offense to Roman
Catholic Subjects.

LONDON, May 7.—"The King is dead. Long live the King." The transition from Edward VII. to George V. as King of Great Britain and Ireland and Emperor of India is now complete. King George V. was formally proclaimed as successor to the throne at four o'clock this afternoon. The ceremony was impressive, occurring in the throne room of St. James Palace, in the presence of the privy council under the presidency of the Earl of Crewe.

The mourning features were for the time being set aside and King George appeared in the uniform of an admiral, while the distinguished gathering of privy councilors and officers of the court were in levee dress and wore the regalia and decorations of their high orders.

The proclamation of kingship was a sonorous document conferring upon the new sovereign all the attributes of a ruler which his father had possessed. The response of King George was marked by deep emotion as he solemnly affirmed his purpose to fulfill to the best of his ability the great trust reposed in him.

Pledge of the New King.

The first official utterance of the new King was marked by feeling eloquence and made a deep impression.

"My lords and gentlemen," said the King, "my heart is too full for me to address you in more than a few words. It is my sorrowful duty to announce to you the death of my dearly beloved father, the King. In this irreparable loss which has so suddenly fallen on me and the whole empire I am comforted by the feeling that I have the sympathy of my future subjects, who will mourn with me for their beloved sovereign, whose own happiness was found in sharing and promoting theirs. I have lost not only a father's love, but the affectionate and intimate relations of a dear friend and adviser.

"No less confident am I in the universal and loving sympathy which is assured to my dearest mother in her overwhelming grief. Standing here little more than nine years ago, our beloved King declared that so long as there was breath in his body he would work for the good and amelioration of his subjects. I am sure that the opinion of the whole nation will be that this declaration has been fully carried out.

"To endeavor to follow in his footsteps, and at the same time to uphold the constitutional government of these realms, will be the earnest object of my life. I am deeply sensible of the very heavy responsibilities which have fallen upon me. I know that I can rely upon the parliament and the people of these islands and my dominions beyond the seas for their help in the discharge of these arduous duties and their prayers that God will grant me strength and guidance. I am encouraged by the knowledge that I have in my dear wife one who will be a constant helpmate in every endeavor for our people's good."

The oath was administered to the King by the Lord Chancellor. Following a custom, the members of the cabinet who were present tendered their formal resignation to the new ruler, who at once returned the resignations unaccepted. Thereupon, the members of the cabinet and the privy councilors kissed the King's hand, according to the traditional customs, to signify allegiance to the new ruler.

King George drove in simple fashion back to Marlborough House, without the military escort and pomp which has characterized royal functions of late years.

The meeting of the privy council was a brilliant function. The King wore the uniform of an admiral and was surrounded by a large gathering of councilors, all in levee dress and wearing the ribbon of their orders. The Lord Mayor was in his robes of office. The councilors, having appointed the King with the council on of the proclamation, his majesty entered the council chamber and signed the proclamation, after which he confirmed in their offices those who had held appointments under his father at the time of the King's death.

King George delivered a brief, but earnest address. He exhibited deep emotion as he announced his determination to endeavor under the guidance of God to maintain the high traditions of the British crown and to fulfill to the best of his ability the great trust reposed in him.

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Lansdowne, administered the oath to the King, and following the custom, the cabinet ministers swore allegiance to the new sovereign, at the same time tendering their seals of office, which his majesty returned. The ministers kissed the King's hand.

The councilors upon being reappointed, in turn, took the oath of allegiance and kissed the King's hand.

This concluded the business of the council and his majesty retired.

The King left St. James Palace on his return to Marlborough House at five o'clock, having been absent for the ceremony just one hour. The marked lack of display in the conduct of the new monarch was striking. A single carriage occupied by the sovereign and attended by two royal equerries was driven to and from St. James Palace. There was no military escort and the only decoration which the monarch wore was the Order of the Garter. In fact, the Lord Mayor and the city aldermen furnished the most spectacular element of the ceremony. While his father was signing the proclamation the young Prince of Wales stood on a temporary scaffolding behind the wall at Marlborough House and eagerly watched such of the proceedings as came into his view.

Owing to the late hour at which the formalities were completed by the privy council and the impossibility of distributing the proclamation to the various centers in time to permit simultaneous proclaiming ceremonies, the proclamation of King George's accession by heralds and pursuivants was postponed until Monday.

Queen Mother to the People.

LONDON, May 10.—While the rulers and representatives of foreign nations are assembling here for the obsequies of King Edward, the various necessary formalities incident to the sad event, are being gradually completed.

The widowed Queen has sent a touching personal message to the nation, written in unassuming style and recalling similar intimate messages Queen Victoria was in the habit of addressing to her people.

King George has addressed messages to the navy and army, expressing his thanks for their loyalty and devotion and his solicitude for the efficiency of both services.

A message also has gone from the King to the Indian princes and people expressive of his gratitude for their sympathy.

Message of Queen Mother.

Queen Alexandra's message to the nation follows:

"From the depth of my poor broken heart I wish to express to the whole nation and our kind people we love so well my deepest thanks for all their touching sympathy in my overwhelming sorrow and unspokeable anguish.

"Not alone have I lost everything in him, my beloved husband, but the nation, too, has suffered an irreparable loss when their best friend, father and sovereign thus suddenly was called away. May God give us all His divine help to bear this heaviest of crosses which he has seen fit to lay upon us. His will be done."

"Give to me a thought in your prayers which will comfort and sustain me in all that I have to go through. Let me take this opportunity of expressing my heartfelt thanks for all the touching letters and tokens of sympathy I have received from all classes, high and low, rich and poor, which are so numerous that I fear it would be impossible for me to ever thank everybody individually.

"I confide my dear son into your care, who, I know, will follow in his dear father's footsteps, begging you to show him the same loyalty and devotion you showed his dear father. I know both my dear son and daughter-in-law will do their utmost to merit and keep it."

King George to the Navy.

One of the first messages issued by King George, who has long been known as the "sailor prince," was addressed to the navy. In it the King said: "It is my earnest wish on succeeding to the throne to make known to the navy how deeply grateful I am for its faithful and distinguished services, rendered to the late King, my beloved father, who ever showed the greatest solicitude for its welfare and efficiency.

"Educated and trained in that profession which I love so dearly, retirement from active duty has in no sense diminished my feeling of affection for it. For thirty-three years I have had the honor of serving in the navy, and such intimate participation in its life and work enables me to know how thoroughly I can depend upon that spirit of loyalty and zealous devotion to duty, of which the glorious history of our navy is the outcome. That you will ever continue to be, as in the past, the foremost defender of your country's honor, I know full well, and your fortunes will always be followed by me with deep feelings of pride, affection and interest."

GEORGE V.

To Amend King's Oath.

John E. Redmond, leader of the Irish Parliamentary party, has written to Premier Asquith, reminding him of the favorable expressions, when recently the question was raised in Parliament by the Duke of Norfolk, the foremost Catholic in England, on abolishing the oath from the declaration of the monarch must make before a new parliament, of the ancient words, "abjuring the church of Rome." These words, Redmond declares, are most offensive to all Catholics.

The cabinet today decided to introduce a bill amending the declaration of the King wherein he asserts his disbelief in transubstantiation and adoration of the virgin and saints, and that he makes declaration without mental reservation or dispensation from the Pope or other authority.

For the declaration that the foregoing doctrine and the mass "are superstitions and idolatrous" it is proposed to substitute the words "are contrary to my belief" and to omit reference to the Pope.

The majority of Parliament is believed to favor these changes, but the Orangemen and extreme Protestants will oppose them. The Catholics wish the entire declaration abolished, for the lay officers of the church consider such a safeguard against a Catholic monarch necessary.

NATURE'S REMEDIES FOR DISEASE.

Nature provides more effective remedies in the roots and herbs of the field than were ever produced from drugs.

Thirty years ago, Lydia E. Pinkham of Lynn, Massachusetts, discovered and gave to the women of the world a remedy made from roots and herbs, which has proved more efficacious in curing women's diseases than any other medicine the world has ever known, and today Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is looked upon everywhere as the standard remedy for women's ills.

EARTH HAS A TAIL LIKE COMET

It Is Not So Big, However—
Mons. Flammarion Refers
to Aurora Borealis.

Halley's comet, which has been flaunting its tail across the sky these early mornings, has been getting all the press notices. But it is not so much. So far as tails go it has nothing on this earth of our because we have a tail of our own. Only, as the Astronomer Flammarion points out, we are more modest about our panache. This is what Mons. Flammarion writes for the New York Herald:

Although the "martyrology of the comet" has been now increased by some ignorant victims, faithful to the ancient superstitions and thinking, as in the time of the illustrious surgeon Ambroise Pare, that

Quelques un ciel comete on n'a pu voir
Que quelque mal ne nous face apparoir,

it is evident that superstitions are giving way more and more to a curiosity to know the real physical nature of these flaming stars with magnificent hairy appendages and that these researches are constantly interesting the civilized world more and more. If comets have, in the eyes of humanity, conquered their real place in the population of the heavens, they nevertheless remain, from several points of view, surrounded by a certain mystery which moreover, only succeeds in adding some of the charm of the unknown to the interest they excite.

Nature of Comets.

And, first, what is a comet? This fundamental question is at present the object of so many controversies that it is worth the trouble of discussing. Several theories have been put forth, and it seems to me interesting to summarize them for our readers, beginning with that which W. H. Pickering recently developed apropos of Halley's comet. According to this astronomer the comet's head consists of a swarm of meteors, the size of which varies from a fine impalpable dust to enormous blocks weighing several hundred kilograms floating in a gaseous atmosphere.

As long as the comet wanders in the depths of space, very far from the radiant focus, it remains invisible, like a simple gathering of dark bodies, but when it penetrates into the zone of the sun's action it begins to be metamorphosed.

The Ions.

The sun radiates energy under multiple forms—light, heat and electricity. It projects all around to enormous distances those things, so important in modern theories, which we call "ions," and which in the form of cathodic rays are precipitated with the dizzy speed of more than 150,000 kilometres a second toward the islands and islets which compose the solar archipelago; that is to say, toward the planets and their satellites and toward the comets.

When these radiations strike a comet they provoke in the midst of the very rarefied gases in its head continuous electric discharges. It is through this phenomenon that the cometary atmosphere and the meteors that it envelops become luminous. Besides, these corpuscles attach themselves to the gaseous molecules of the nucleus, electrify them negatively and repel them in a direction opposite to the sun, which is also negatively electrified. These vapors are thus repelled to a greater or less distance from the head and form a more or less extended tail.

The Cometary Appendix.

To sum up, it may be said that, according to this theory, the tail of a comet is nothing else than a gaseous current, driven from the head by the repellant force emanating from the sun, each particle of which carries with it a charge of negative electricity. A certain quantity of impalpable dust, probably accompanies the vaporous trail, but this meteoric dust scatters and does not extend to the extremity of the caudal appendage. After that which precedes one may ask why the earth does not itself have a tail, like the comet, for it is also enveloped in a gaseous atmosphere, and must be a target for the invisible projectiles of the sun, for the electrons, the ions, the cathodic rays.

The Aurora Borealis.

Mr. Pickering replies that our planet in this respect has no need of envying the comet. It is in fact provided with a tail, but its panache is more modest and not permanent. In fact, he adds, the great polar auroras, which dart their luminous and colored arches above the Arctic and Antarctic regions, and whose waves sometimes reach 800 or 1,000 kilometres in height and even more, are nothing else, relatively to earth, than a sort of tail analogous to that with which the comets are adorned. This terrestrial tail is short, because the mass of our globe being considerable, gravitation surpasses and dominates the repellant force. Attraction retains the atmosphere and hinders it from forming a gigantic tail of a fantastic aspect.

An Igenuous Hypothesis.

Gravitation is proportionate to the volume or to the mass, that is to say, to the cube of the diameter of the particle. The repellant force is proportionate to the surface, that is to say, to the square of the diameter of the molecule. As gravitation decreases quicker than the repellant force it results that for heavenly bodies of small dimensions the attraction becomes so feeble that it is equaled and even surpassed by the repellant force. It is this which explains the formation and the extent of the comet's tail.

Such is the ingenious hypothesis advanced by Mr. Pickering. We will also present other ones to our readers.

As complement to this article it is a pleasure for me to put before their eyes the last drawing of Halley's comet taken by Mons. Bagelet at an observatory. Two tails it is noticed, making with each other an angle of seventy degrees. The most luminous and the longest is the northern tail. The head has a diameter of about thirty times that of the earth that is to say, it would fill up the space between our globe and the moon.

AWAITING THE TRANSIT OF COMET

(Continued from Page One.)

by the sun's heat, and there is a chance that various parts of the nucleus are large enough to cast shadows on the sun's disk. The transit will take about an hour, and the comet will be in the center of the sun at 18 minutes past five this afternoon, according to a cable I just received from Doctor Hall, which is the result of the last observations and calculations, probably at Harvard observatory.

The exact time of the earth's being within the tail can not be stated with certainty, as it is impossible to say whether the tail is curved or not. If the tail is a straight line, of course, the earth will enter it some time before the comet's nucleus begins to cross the sun, as seen from here, the tail being much wider than the nucleus, and the earth will naturally be in the tail for some time after the transit of the nucleus is over. The time of earth's entering the tail may be any time between tonight, Tuesday, and Thursday morning.

I doubt whether there will be any visible effect of earth's passing through the comet's tail. On a clear dark night it would probably cause some illumination.

Professors Lord and Coddington are at Haliwa, where they will use the spectrograph, hoping to get some photographs which will indicate the composition of the comet. The cable received by Professor Ellerman was transmitted to them yesterday.

The question of what comets are composed of has been long a subject of speculation and controversy among astronomers. The opportunity of today is the best that has ever occurred for settling it. A writer in Collier's says:

A year ago I made the announcement that comets' "tails" were sunlight, focused and transmitted through space by the heads of comets acting as huge, spherical lenses. In other words, the "tail" of a comet is practically the same as the beam of a searchlight. This has since been proven by observation at many observatories.

When Halley's comet passes between the earth and sun on May 18-20, the earth will merely be bathed in an extra flood of light. If the passage occurs in the day and the sky be clear, we shall have a hot, brilliant day. If at night, it will be bright, as if the moon, at that time just past first quarter, were at its fullest and brightest and shining on freshly fallen snow.

We are not afraid of brilliant moonlight. The moon is only 240,000 miles away, while Halley's comet at its nearest will be sixty times as far from the earth. There is this difference, though. The moon's light is reflected sunlight, the comet's light is condensed and transmitted sunlight. The earth will be out of focus of this light this time. It would take a comet over a million miles in diameter, passing between the earth and sun much nearer than any comet ever has, to affect the earth by focused light.

This can be understood by putting some burnable object in sunlight and placing a magnifying glass between it and the sun. If the sunlight is not focused on the object the glass merely lights it up. The chance of any comet passing the earth so its rays will be focused on the earth is about one in a billion. Therefore we need not worry. Venus will practically anticipate our experience by eighteen days, so we will have ample time to quiet our fears before the comet reaches us.

Much has been written about the evil effects of comets on the earth. Much of it is "enthusiasm." The presence of an abnormal body, moving at high speed through the solar system, is bound to result in some slight disturbance, but the earth successfully resists each second of its existence greater strains than any comet could possibly cause. The earth is protected by a wonderfully resilient and elastic atmosphere weighing 20,000,000,000,000 of tons. This titanic shock-absorber has withstood the centrifugal pressure of the solid earth for untold ages, and the centrifugal pressure of the earth can only be expressed in myriad multiples of millions. The passage of the comet will cause local disturbances. But there is a vast difference between an eruption like Krakatoa, in a comet year, or an earthquake like those of San Francisco or Messina and a universal deluge of water or fire or extinction by cyanogen gas. There has been, and will be, unreasonable weather, auroral displays, magnetic disturbances, and other phenomena, but these are not to be feared as involving destruction of the human race or its planet.

There is grave doubt in the minds of some astronomers that this comet is all of Halley's comet. The comet of May, 1910, pursued the same path and passed very close to the earth. Halley's comet may have divided, as did Biela's. Even so, it was large, or compact, enough to throw a shaft of sunlight or "tail" two million miles long on April 17, the day before it passed perihelion.

HAWAII WITHIN POSSIBLE DANGER

(Continued from Page Nine.)

In France might have been due to the transmission of X-rays or other invisible rays of solar force by the comet of January, 1910; and his point of view has been sustained by many other observations. Since in solar force, radiating from the sun, is contained all the elements of energy of every sort, whether it be manifest as electricity, magnetism, positive or negative electrification, centrifugal or centrifugal force, X-rays, Roentgen rays, or any form of energy or motion, it is quite clear that a body such as that of the head of a comet, of sufficient size, could cause disturbance of the stable condition and condition of these forces transmitted ordinarily to the earth.

The Sensitive Condition of the Earth.

If we compare the solar system to a watch of which the sun is the main spring and the planets the works, it is quite evident that any abnormal body entering this solar watch would be bound to disturb its regular motion, and this disturbance would depend on

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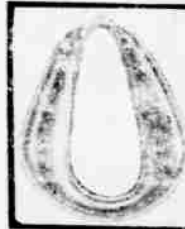
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